

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : SIGWORTH, WILLIAM

Appl. No. : To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned

Filed : Art Unit: To be assigned

For : COUPLING AGENTS FOR NATURAL FIBER-FILLED  
POLYOLEFINS

Attorney Docket No.: 0176-PA

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application and are submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98. Copies of these documents are provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue.

The applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided by this statement, to prove that the enclosed information is not prior art, and/or to prove that this information is not enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

Information Disclosure Statement  
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This statement should not be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search has been made or that there does not exist information more material to the examination of the present patent application. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted with this statement.

The applicant requests that the examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and indicate in the official file history of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 23-2656.

April 14, 2003  
Date

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FORM PTO-1449 <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 0176-PA		APPLICATION NO. To be assigned	
				APPLICANT SIGWORTH, William			
				FILING DATE		GROUP To be assigned	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	4,717,742	Jan. 5, 1988	Beshay	523	203	May 29, 1985
	AB1	4,820,749	Apr. 11, 1989	Beshay	523	203	Sep. 11, 1987
	AC1	6,265,037	Jul. 24, 2001	Godavarti et al.	428	34	Apr. 16, 1999
	AD1	6,300,415	Oct. 9, 2001	Okayama et al.	525	191	Nov. 22, 1996
	AG1						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1						Yes No
OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
			Jacoby et al., Wood Filled High Crystallinity Polypropylene, Wood-Plastic Conference sponsored by Plastics Technology, Baltimore, MD, December 5-6, 2000, pages 115-137.				
			Wolcott et al., Coupling Agent/Lubricant Interactions in Commercial Wood Plastic Formulations, Sixth International Conference on Woodfiber-Plastic Composites, Madison, WI, May 15-16, 2001, pages 197-204.				
			Sigworth et al., The Use of Functionalized Polyolefins in Environmentally Friendly Plastic Composites, GPEC 2002, February 13-14, 2002, pages 1-11.				
	AR	<u>1</u>	Wefer et al., The Use of Functionalized Coupling Agents in Wood-Filled Polyolefins, Wood-Plastic Composites: A Sustainable Future, Vienna, Austria, May 15, 2002, pages 1-17.				
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.							

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1						
	AB1						
	AC1						
	AD1						
	AG1						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1						Yes No
OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
			Heath, The Use of Additives to Enhance Properties and Processing of Wood Polymer Composites, Progress in Woodfibre-Plastics Composites Conference 2002, May 23-24, 2002, Toronto, Canada, pages 1-8.				
			Sigworth, Additives for Wood-filled Polyolefins Coupling Agents, Progress in Woodfibre-Plastic Composites Conference, May 24, 2002, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, pages 1-17.				
			Kokta et al., Use of Wood Flour as Filler in Polypropylene: Studies on Mechanical Properties, Polym.-Plast. Technol. Eng., 28(3), (1989), pages 247-259.				
			Raj et al., The Influence of Coupling Agents on Mechanical Properties of Composites Containing Cellulosic Fillers, Polym.-Plast. Technol. Eng., 29(4), (1990), pages 339-353.				
	AR	1	Matuana et al., Influence of Interfacial Interactions on the Properties of PVC/Cellulosic Fiber Composites, ANTEC, Vol. 3, (1998), pages 3313-3318.				
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
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